

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph beginning on page 3, line 22:

In yet a further embodiment of the present invention, a protective helmet having an interior comprising a helmet shell for protectively enclosing a wearer's head, the helmet shell having a frontal hemisphere, a rear hemisphere, a top portion, and an interior, wherein the top portion extends into both the frontal and rear hemisphere and is the area of the helmet shell that protects the top of the wearer's head, wherein the frontal hemisphere is a front portion of the helmet shell that protects a wearer's face, wherein the rear hemisphere is the other portion of the helmet shell that protects the back of the wearer's head, wherein the interior is defined and enclosed by the shell; a shield coupled to the frontal hemisphere of the shell; an insert positioned in the interior of the shell for receiving the wearer's head, the insert having at least one channel formed therein and extending from a proximal end adjacent the top portion of the shell to a distal end generally adjacent the shield, the at least one channel enclosed within the frontal hemisphere, the insert further having at least one slot formed therein and extending through the insert, each of the at least one slots in fluid communication with a respective one of the at least one channels; a tube inlet coupled to the top portion of the shell and in fluid communication with a portion of the at least one channel for airflow therebetween, the inlet operable to be connected to a source of air; wherein the tube inlet, the at least one channel, and the at least one slot are constructed so that when the tube inlet is connected to the source of air, air travels downward into the tube inlet, through the at least one channel, through the at least one slot, and into the interior of the helmet.

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